

Message Text

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EUR/CAN - L.F. JANOWSKI (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:OCLR, TBIO, TPHY, US, CA

SUBJECT: R/V WESTWARD CRUISE OF 23 JULY - 9 SEPT. 1975

1. R/V WESTWARD OWNED AND OPERATED BY SEA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION PLANS TO CONDUCT A BIOACOUSTIC STUDY OF CETACEANS OFF EASTERN COAST OF CANADA FROM 23 JULY TO 9 SEPTEMBER 1975. TWO MAJOR OBJECTIVES OF THIS PROGRAM ARE (1) TO DETERMINE ACOUSTIC CHARACTERISTICS OF WHALES, INCLUDING SOUND PRODUCTION AND SOUND REFLECTION CAPABILITIES AND (2) TO ACQUIRE DATA ON DISTRIBUTION OF WHALES WHICH WILL PROVIDE BASIS FOR PREDICTING THEIR OCCURRENCE IN TERMS OF SPECIES AND POPULATION DENSITIES. THE CRUISE PLAN CALLS FOR CONTINUOUS DAYLIGHT VISUAL WATCH FOR MARINE MAMMALS. IN ADDITION, SSQ-41A SONOBUOYS WILL BE DROPPED AT SELECTED POSITIONS ALONG SHIP'S TRACK TO PROVIDE AUDITORY DETECTION CAPABILITY. WHEN A WHALE IS ENCOUNTERED, AN SSQ-57A SONOBUOY WILL BE DROPPED CLOSE TO THE WHALE. TWO MORE SONOBUOYS WILL ALSO BE DROPPED NEARBY. SHIP WILL GO QUIET FOR 15 MINUTES WHILE SOUNDS EMITTED BY WHALE ARE RECORDED ON TAPE. TAPES WILL BE ANALYZED LATER FOR DETERMINATION OF SOURCE LEVEL AND FREQUENCY CHARACTERISTICS. PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE TAKEN DURING THIS PERIOD.

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ISTICS. PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE TAKEN DURING THIS PERIOD.

WEATHER, SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE, SEA STATE, AND

VISIBILITY WILL BE NOTED. VESSEL WILL UTILIZE ONLY NON-EXPLOSIVE SOUND SOURCES FOR THIS RESEARCH.

2. TENTATIVE ITINERARY CALLS FOR SHIP'S ARRIVAL AT PORTS OF YARMOUTH, N.S., ON 27 JULY; HALIFAX, N.S. ON 6 AUGUST; ST. JOHNS, NEWFOUNDLAND, ON 20 AUGUST; AND HALIFAX, N.S. ON 1 SEPTEMBER. GENERAL AREA OF OPERATION WILL BE IN BAY OF FUNDY AND GULF OF ST. LAWRENCE. SPECIFIC AREAS OF STUDY WILL DEPEND ON WHERE WHALES ARE LOCATED.

3. MASTER OF VESSEL IS CAPTAIN JOHN METCALFE. VESSEL CARRIES CREW OF 8, 18 APPRENTICE/STUDENTS AND 3 SCIENTISTS. PRINCIPAL SCIENTISTS WILL BE WILLIAM T. LEAPLEY AND COLEMAN LEVENSON. VESSEL IS 200-GROSS-TON SAILING SCHOONER WITH OVERALL LENGTH OF 99 FT. AND DRAFT OF 12 FT. 6 INCHES. RADIO CALL SIGN IS WZL 8190. SPACE IS AVAILABLE FOR FROM ONE TO THREE CANADIAN SCIENTISTS FOR ALL LEGS OF CRUISE. CRUISE REPORT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO GOC WITHIN REASONABLE TIME FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF CRUISE.

4. DR. PETER BEAMISH, MARINE ECOLOGY LABORATORY, BEDFORD INSTITUTE, DARTMOUTH, NOVA SCOTIA HAS BEEN CONTACTED BY SEA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION AND MAY PARTICIPATION IN THIS CRUISE. DR. BEAMISH IS CETOLOGIST AND ACCOUSTICIAN WHO PARTICIPATED IN SIMILAR R/V WESTWARD CRUISES IN AUGUST 1973 AND 1974. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO REFER GOC TO DR. BEAMISH IF GOC WOULD LIKE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM PLANNED FOR VESSEL.

5. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS EMBASSY OBTAIN CLEARANCE FROM GOC FOR R/V WESTWARD'S PLANNED RESEARCH IN CANADIAN TERRITORIAL WATERS. INGERSOLL

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